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1. Bulganin, Nikolai Alexandrovich, Marshal -

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Bulganin was a political member of the Defense Council. Bulganin, who represented the Kremlin's political control, constantly interfered in military activities. There was always serious friction between Zhukov and Bulganin, as Zhukov resented any interference on the part of political people who are totally incompetent from the military point of view. This friction continued throughout the entire war.

2. the reason for Zhukov's "disfavor" after the war was his wide and rising popularity, his conceit, and his refusal to accept Bulganin's authority in 1946. Bulganin was, of course, Stalin's favorite. He enjoyed great authority among political colleagues, but none among the military. His appointment in 1946 as First Deputy and Commander-in-Chief of the Land Forces, and in March, 1947, the Minister of the Armed Forces, caused a great disappointment among the combat officers but encouraged the political branch of the Army considerably.

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3. Bulganin is a person of strong will power who is capable of fighting for his views and ideas. He is a man of certain convictions and of great organizational talents. Bulganin is a Stalinist and now apparently belongs to the Malenkov group.

4. Bulganin (Army), Kuznetsov (Navy) and Zhigorov (Air Force), are military-political figures, whereas Umashev (Navy 1951) and Vershinin (Air Force 1951) are top-notch military specialists.

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5. Rokossovsky, Vasilii Danilovich, Marshal spent years in NKVD jails and camps, where he suffered greatly including the loss of all his teeth. He is now a marshal and the military head of Poland. Rokossovsky will never belong to any political group, but will serve the Kremlin honestly.

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6. The Soviet system certainly knows how to exploit human traits to its advantage. By subjecting its victims at first to tortures and degradation and then raising them to new heights, the Soviet government feels certain not only of their future loyalty, but of the fact that they will exhibit complete indifference or even some contempt toward others who have suffered a similar punishment.
7. This is why Rokossovsky when addressing groups of officers up to the rank of colonel assigned to the so-called "shtrafnoi" or disciplinary units spoke as follows: "In order to redeem yourselves, you must do your very best during the war and should always be prepared to sacrifice yourselves. There is no way left for you but to either perish or re-establish yourselves in the military life. Take my example -- NKVD jails, concentration camps, teeth knocked out, and now I am a marshal. So could you overcome everything and reach new heights." With this he gave out assignments which were most difficult to fulfill.
8. This type of assignment was generally followed by certain measures which assured the execution of the assigned tasks: [REDACTED] during the great retreats of 1941 Rokossovsky assigned to a picked brigade a task of defending certain heights which, in his opinion, were of tremendous strategic importance. Being a very brave officer Rokossovsky himself appeared on the frontlines, talked to the officers and men of this brigade, explaining the importance of their assignment and remaining with this unit until he was convinced that it will do its job. However, after leaving this section he ordered every approach to the heights completely mined which discouraged the doomed brigade from any temptations to withdraw. Rokossovsky had another trait on the battle field -- he, like Zhukov -- never hesitated to shoot personally or to have anyone shot who, in his opinion, failed to perform his military duty.
9. Zhukov, Georgi Konstantinovich, Marshal - A most determined man who will resort to any necessary tactics to carry out an order or attain a military objective. Heavy personnel casualties will never deter Zhukov from striving to reach his planned objectives [REDACTED] 25X1
10. Zhukov was an ardent opponent of the political control apparatus in the army during the war through 1946 which cost him several years of his career. Neither he, Rokossovsky, Konev, nor Malinovsky is interested in politics, which they don't like, but under no circumstances will they rise against the Soviet power, to which they owe their present high station. [REDACTED]

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